



1. Pastor Mark shares the story of the different groups (tribes) of people who gathered in his High School cafeteria. What kind of groups do you recall from High School? Which group (tribe) were you a part of?
2. Why do you think we have a natural tendency to want to spend most of our time with people who look, act and believe the same way as we do?
3. Pastor Mark re-caps the Dr. Seuss story of the Sneetches. What do you think the main point of that story is?
4. Read Luke 2:8-18. Pastor Mark explains that Shepherds were at the low end of the working-class pecking order. Why do you think the Angels appeared to the Shepherds rather than appearing to the wealthy and powerful people who would have more influence?
5. Read Galatians 3:26-28. How does this passage connect with the story of the Angels announcing the birth of Jesus to Shepherds?
6. Why is the idea that we are all on equal footing in the eyes of God such a revolutionary idea?
7. Why is it sometimes difficult to see people who are different from us as part of a common human family?
8. What can the church do to help people do a better job of understanding each other and respecting each other's differences while recognizing our commonalities.
9. The point of Mark's message is not that differences between individuals and groups do not matter, but that those differences don't have to create harsh divisions. Why do you think this it is so difficult today to connect with people who are different from us?
10. How does the story of Christmas, and the truth that God's love and grace has been poured out on all people help to bridge the divisions between us?